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SUPPLEMENT TO INTELLIGENCE REPORT

FOR THE

SENIOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL GROUP

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SUPPLEMENT

CAMBODIA

Prince Sihanouk, at the same time he has been making gestures toward improved relations with the West, is preparing for another round of talks with the Viet Cong.

From 1963 to the fall of 1965, Cambodian foreign policy seemed consistently aimed at accommodation with the Communist camp. Over the past year, however, US military operations in Vietnam have caused Sihanouk to re-evaluate his relations with the Vietnamese Communists. As the Communists have been driven to greater use of Cambodian territory. Sihanouk's fears have increased that the fighting might spread to his country.

Since last fall Sihanouk has moved to increase contacts with the non-Communist world. He has actively pushed for an expanded International Control Commission (ICC) presence in Cambodia, and in recent weeks he has held out the prospect of improved relations with Bangkok and Saigon.

New Cambodian talks with the Viet Cong now are scheduled for early August in Phnom Penh. The preparations for these come at a time when Sihanouk has been increasingly critical of the Communists' inflexible attitude on the question of negotiations on Vietnam and their refusal to back his proposal for expanding the ICC in Cambodia. Sihanouk's objectives in the talks probably include Viet Cong recognition of Cambodia's version of its borders with Laos and South Vietnam as well as a pledge of support for Cambodia's "neutrality."

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